REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 6 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Guilford et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0087674). Claim 2, 4 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guilford et al. in view of DeBeer (U.S. Pub. 2005/0101323).

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under §102(e), the Examiner states that Guilford et al. anticipates the claim. Guilford et al. discloses intelligent network selection based on quality of service and application over different wireless networks.

Claim 1 of the present application recites, in part, that a mobile station initially acquires a public land mobile network (PLMN). After initial acquisition, one of two occurrences occur based on whether the acquired PLMN exists in a roaming table stored in the mobile station. If the PLMN is stored in the roaming table, the mobile station registers with the base station associated with the PLMN. If the PLMN is not stored in the roaming table, new public land mobile network information is acquired *using frequencies having a receiving strength less than the maximum receiving strength*. It is then determined if this newly acquired PLMN exists in the roaming table. The process continues until a PLMN in the roaming table is acquired.

Guilford et al. does not progressively search for new PLMNs based on decreasing signal strengths of the frequencies.

Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 6 under §103(a), the Examiner states that the claim is rendered obvious over Guilford et al. in view of DeBeer. DeBeer discloses network selection in a mobile telecommunications system.

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Similar to Claim 1, Claim 6 of the present application recites, in part, that a mobile station initially acquires a public land mobile network (PLMN). After initial acquisition, one of two occurrences occur based on whether the acquired PLMN exists in a roaming table stored in the mobile station. If the PLMN is stored in the roaming table, the mobile station registers with the base station associated with the PLMN. If the PLMN is not stored in the roaming table, new public land mobile network information is acquired ***using frequencies having a receiving strength less than the maximum receiving strength***. It is then determined if this newly acquired PLMN exists in the roaming table. The process continues until a PLMN in the roaming table is acquired.

Guilford et al. does not progressively search for new PLMNs based on decreasing signal strengths of the frequencies. DeBeer does not cure this defect.

Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 1 and 6 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-5 and 7-9, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 2-5 and 7-9 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-9, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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